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Allegiances

ThunderClan

Leader: Bluestar: Pale blue-grey she-cat with blue eyes and a scar on her shoulder

Deputy: Redtail: Small tortoiseshell tom with a distinct bushy ginger tail

Medicine cat(s): Spottedleaf: Beautiful tortoiseshell and white she-cat with amber eyes.
Hawkwish: Light brown tabby she-cat with darker brown swirls and delicate amber eyes (Owned by @PichuOnReddit on Reddit)

Warriors:

Fuzzypelt: Black tom with spiky fur.

Featherfur: White tom with pale blue eyes. Deaf.

Tigerclaw: Dark brown tabby tom with long front claws, and amber eyes.
Apprentice: Darkpaw

Yewflare: Black she-cat with a red mask pattern and red speckles. (Owned by @SoggyFrenchFries123 on Reddit)

Whitestorm: A snowy white tom with yellow eyes.

Foxstorm: Ginger tabby she-cat with blue eyes.
Apprentice: Chestnutpaw

Cricketleap: Blue-grey she-cat with blue eyes.

Wrenleap: Blue cream she-cat with green eyes.

Blackwing: Black tom with a white chest and orange eyes.

Icestorm: Blue-grey tom with a white dash on his chest, white paws, and blue eyes.
Apprentice: Cherrypaw

Frostfur: White she-cat with dark blue eyes.

Finchwing: Brown tabby tom with green eyes
Apprentice: Longpaw

Softstripe : Long-haired pale brown tabby she-cat with thin stripes on her face and feet, distinctive black paws and partially black tail , bright blue eyes

Mousefur: Dusky brown she-cat

Sandypelt: Mottled sandy grey tom with a white chest, and blue eyes.

Goldenflower: Beautiful golden tabby she-cat
Apprentice: Juniperpaw

Lionheart: Golden tabby tom with a manelike fur around his neck
Apprentice: Duskpaw

Speckletail: Pale golden tabby she-cat with amber eyes

Smallear: Grey tom with small ears and yellow eyes

Patchpelt : Black and white tom with yellow eyes

Apprentices:

Darkpaw: Black tabby tom with yellow eyes

Chestnutpaw: Reddish-brown tom with a lighter colored chest, paws and underbelly, amber eyes

Cherrypaw: Ginger and white she-cat, amber eyes

Juniperpaw: Dark grey tom with blue eyes and white paws

Longpaw: Pale brown tabby tom with nearly black stripes and pale blue eyes

Duskpaw: Dark blue grey she-cat with sandy grey speckles on her back and paws , green eyes

Queens and kits:

Brindleface: Grey tabby she-cat. Expecting Redtail's kits

Cloudfur: Dark grey and white she-cat with dark blue eyes. Expecting Finchwing's kits.

Robinwing : Dusky brown she-cat with a ginger patch on her chest. Expecting Fuzzypelt's kits.

Maplegaze: Tortoiseshell and white she-cat with one yellow eye, and one blue eye. Expecting Blackwing's kits.

Willowpelt: Pale grey she-cat with unusually blue eyes. Expecting Sandypelt's kits.

Elders:

One-eye: Pale grey she-cat with one missing eye, the other being yellow.

Halftail: Brown tabby tom with a partially missing tail

Adderfur: Light brown tabby she-cat. One of the oldest cats in the Clan (Owned by @PikachuFurry on Reddit)

WindClan:

Leader: Tallstar: Black and white tom with a really long tail and amber eyes

Deputy: Honeyhop: A brown and white tabby tom with blue eyes. Has scars on his eyelids.
(Owned by @ ashscars on Amino)

Medicine cat: Barkface: Brown tabby tom

Warriors:

Deadfoot: Black tom with a twisted front paw

Apprentice: Fawnpaw

Pigeonflight : Dark grey tom with white patches
Apprentice: Barkpaw

Redclaw: Dark ginger tom

Stagleap: Dark brown tom with amber eyes
Apprentice: Mousepaw

Fogfur: Pale grey tom with amber eyes
Apprentice: Brownpaw

Ashfoot: Pale grey she-cat with blue eyes

Wildwhisker: Lean ,pale brown tabby tom with long whiskers

Darkfang: Dark reddish-brown, nearly black, tom with white paws and green eyes

Robinfeather: Reddish-brown tom with a white patch on his chest and white front paws,bright yellow eyes

Doespring: Light brown she-cat with pale green eyes

Ryestalk: Soft-furred grey tabby she-cat with amber eyes

Seedpelt: Grey spotted tabby tom with white tailtip and blue eyes

Morningflower: Tortoiseshell she-cat

Sorrelshine: Brown and grey she-cat with amber eyes
Apprentice: Silverpaw

Birchsong: Tall, brown tabby she-cat with darker ears and light green eyes (Owned by @ Distinct_Release on Reddit)

Snowcloud: White tom with greenish-amber eyes

Yewpelt: Dark tortoiseshell she-cat with bright ginger patches, bright green eyes

Meadowslip: Light grey she-cat with orange eyes

Hickorynose: Reddish-brown tom with amber eyes

Apprentices:
Fawnpaw: Cream tabby she-cat with pale green eyes

Barkpaw: Brown tom with white left hind paw and right front paw, green eyes

Brownpaw: Brown tabby tom with ginger tabby paws ,amber eyes

Silverpaw: Mottled silver tabby she-cat with green eyes

Mousepaw: Grey tom with green eyes

Queens and kits:

Mistmouse: Pale brown tabby she-cat with green eyes. Expecting Fogfur's kits

Petalstep: Light grey she-cat with darker petal shaped patches , amber eyes. Expecting Redclaw's kits.

Elders:

RiverClan:

Leader: Crookedstar: Massive pale tabby tom with a twisted jaw and green eyes

Deputy: Oakheart: Reddish-brown tom with amber eyes

Medicine cat: Mudfur: Long-haired brown tom

Warriors:

Echomist: Pale grey she-cat with white-tipped fur, and blue eyes
Apprentice: Icepaw

Rainflower: Soft-furred pale grey she-cat

Fallowtail: Brown she-cat with blue eyes

Ottersplash: Ginger and white she-cat

Apprentice: Vixenpaw

Mossflower: Reddish-brown tabby she-cat with white patches and green eyes

Pebblefang: Long-haired grey tom with white speckles and amber eyes

Blackclaw: Black tom

Mistyfoot: Pale grey tabby she-cat with white toes and amber eyes
Apprentice: Volepaw

Sedgecreek: Pale brown tabby she-cat
Apprentice: Grasspaw

Skyheart: Brown she-cat with green eyes
Apprentice: Petalpaw

Swanflight: Silvery grey tabby she-cat
Apprentice: Silverpaw

Timberfur: Dark brown tabby tom with orange eyes

Rainstorm: Dark grey tom with silver markings and hazel eyes. Has big, strong paws and a long thin tail
(Owned by @ Ace_Warriors on Reddit)

Leopardfur: Unusually dappled golden she-cat

Stonefur: Dark blue-grey tabby tom with blue eyes
Apprentice: Minnowpaw

Barkbelly: Dark brown tom with blue eyes

Reedtail: Pale grey tabby tom with darker tail and orange eyes

Apprentices:

Icepaw: White tom with pale grey paws , blue eyes

Petalpaw: Pale grey tabby she cat with white ears , green eyes

Minnowpaw: Dark grey she-cat with orange eyes

Silverpaw: Beautiful black and silver tabby she-cat with bright blue eyes

Grasspaw: Brown tabby she-cat

Vixenpaw: Black she-cat

Volepaw: Pale brown she-cat with a single white paw and blue eyes

Queens and kits:

Pikeclaw: Beautiful silver and white she-cat with green eyes. Expecting Stonefur's kits.

Ottersplash: Ginger and white she-cat with a torn ear. Expecting Timberfur's kits

Petaldust: Tortoiseshell she-cat with pale blue eyes. Expecting Pebblefang's kits

ShadowClan:

Leader: Raggedstar: Dark brown tabby tom with patchy looking fur

Deputy: Cloudpelt: White tom

Medicine cats: Yellowfang: Long-furred dark grey she-cat with a flattened face and orange eyes.

Runningnose: Grey and white tom with constantly running nose

Warriors:

Featherstorm: Brown tabby she-cat

Brackenfoot: Ginger tom with darker ginger legs

Rowanberry: Cream and brown she-cat
Apprentice: Timberpaw

Brokentail: Massive dark tom with kink on his tail

Nightpelt: Black tom

Nutwhisker: Brown tom
Apprentice: Berrypaw

Scorchwind: Ginger tom
Apprentice: Frostpaw

Russetfur: Dark ginger she-cat with green eyes

Blackfoot: Massive white tom with huge jet-black paws, amber eyes

Wolfstep: Long-haired grey tom with white toes and tailtip, green eyes
Apprentice: Softpaw

Amberdusk: Dark orange tabby she-cat with a few grey patches on her back and legs , amber eyes

Palefang: Mottled dark cream tabby she-cat with black patches on her back and amber eyes

Starlingnose: Black tabby tom with a few feather-like white patches and green eyes

Brokentail: Dark brown tabby tom with a kinked tail
Apprentice: Littlepaw

Dewfall: Cream she-cat with a few grey patches, one of them covers the right one of her orange eyes

Apprentices:

Timberpaw: Brown tabby tom with pale yellow eyes

Berrypaw: Light brown tabby she-cat with white toes and dark amber eyes

Softpaw: Soft-furred pale grey she-cat with white patches and amber eyes

Frostpaw: Soft-furred, mostly white she-cat with pale grey patches

and green eyes

Littlepaw: Long-legged , small, wiry dark reddish-brown tabby tom with small white patch on his chest and one white paw, pale blue eyes

Queens and kits:

Heatherbloom: Pale grey and white she-cat with heather blue eyes. Expecting Nutwhisker's kits.

Fernshade: Tortoiseshell she-cat expecting Wolfstep's kits

Foxheart: Bright ginger she-cat with green eyes. Expecting Raggedstar's kits

Cats outside of the Clans:

Nutmeg: Beautiful brown and white she-cat. Expecting Jake's kits

Jake: Handsome ginger tom with green eyes

Checkers: Black and white tom with dark green eyes

Chapter 1: into the forest

A/N: I don't own Warriors. Erin Hunter does. I just play with the characters.

Nutmeg padded out of her cat flap, purring as she felt the slight breeze ruffle her fur. She looked around the yard, her amber eyes blinking rapidly in the sunlight.

After a few moments of adjusting she padded to the fence and jumped atop of it, balancing carefully before jumping down and padding to the nearest meadow. As she was sniffing around she got a whiff of something delicious. Following the scent, she noticed a small creature nibbling on something near her.

She tried to get into a crouch but because of her belly, she couldn't balance herself well.

Unbeknownst to Nutmeg, she was being watched by three pairs of eyes. One yellow, one blue, and one amber. They had seen her eyeying the forest with a curious expression a few times while on patrols before.

" She seems to be a pretty good hunter for a kittypet." One of the cats watching, a golden tabby she-cat with amber eyes commented, her eyes following the brown and white queen.

" And she's probably expecting kits, too." The sandy grey tom with a white chest nodded, having noticed Nutmeg's slightly rounded belly.

"It seems like that. " The golden tabby nodded, thinking about how she'd hope to have kits of her own someday. *Maybe with a tom like Tigerclaw or Icestorm.*

Suddenly the wind changed directions, blowing the scent of the three cats towards Nutmeg. The brown tabby lifted her head, trying to get a better idea of where the scent was coming from. *What is*

that? A scent of at least two cats? It seems like they are close. Am I being watched?

The white tom with yellow eyes noticed her reaction. " She smelled us. " He warned his companions.

The golden tabby nodded. " I know that. Should we go away or do something else?" She asked, looking at the two toms.

The white tom looked at Nutmeg who was sniffing the air, trying still to get an idea of where the scent was coming from.

" One of us should approach her at first while the other two stays hidden. Then if it seems like it'd be needed they can approach. " He mewed.

" That sounds like a good idea , Whitestorm. " The mottled grey tom nodded his blue eyes watching carefully the brown and white tabby queen.

" I can be the one who approaches her. " The golden tabby suggested.

The white tom nodded. " Go on"

The golden tabby padded out of the bush they had been hiding, causing Nutmeg to turn to look at her and take a defensive stance, her tail flicking.

" Calm down. I'm not going to hurt you. " Goldenflower told her, trying to sound calm.

Nutmeg hissed slightly at the bigger she-cat while glaring at her.

Goldenflower looked at her, calmly. " Why do you stare at the forest sometimes? Don't you know that it's dangerous for a kittypet like you? Especially since you seem to be expecting kits. " The tabby asked.

" I'm not a kittypet. I'm a house cat. As for why I sometimes look at the forest, my mate told me that groups of cats live there. I wanted to see was it true or not. Jake claimed that he knew one of the cats

from the moor group. " Nutmeg told her, eyeing her carefully. *If she'd wanted to hurt me she'd have done it already now.*

The tabby she-cat nodded, knowingly. " The groups he told you about are called Clans. There are four Clans: ThunderClan, RiverClan, ShadowClan, and WindClan. I'm a warrior of ThunderClan. " She explained.

" Warrior? Does that mean that you fight other cats?" Nutmeg asked, sounding intrigued.

Goldenflower nodded. " Yes, it means, but not everyone in a Clan is a warrior. Some cats heal, others are too old or too young to fight. Others care for kits or are expecting them. We care for everyone together. " She continued explaining noticing how the brown and white tabby she-cat had positioned herself so that her slightly swollen belly was away from the bigger cat.

" Does it mean that the kits aren't taken from their mothers once they are weaned like happens to kits of a housecat?" Nutmeg asked, sounding hopeful now. *I could be able to see my kits grow up into wonderful cats. And maybe to have another litter.*

Goldenflower nodded. " Yes, queens can take care of their kits even after they have been weaned. The kits will spend the first six moons of their lives in the camp, learning about life in a Clan. After that, they will be apprenticed to a warrior or a medicine cat who will act as their mentor. " She continued.

Nutmeg purred. " Sounds wonderful. "

Goldenflower nodded again. " Life in a Clan can be wonderful but it also has its downsides. For example fights with other Clans over prey or territory, disease, or hunger during leaf-bare. It is harsh yet rewarding at the same time. "

Nutmeg nodded. " I understand that. I wish I could experience it myself. " She mewed sounding wistful.

" If you really think you have what it takes to be a Clan cat, meet me and a few others here tomorrow before sunhigh. " Goldenflower

told her, flicking her tail.

Nutmeg nodded. " I will. I promise that."

Later that night Nutmeg saw a dream where she saw a young flame-colored tom with green eyes standing atop a massive rock while looking down on her, while she was among the crowd of cats. She felt a surge of pride in her chest. *That's my son in there.*

A/N: Whoa. Almost 1k words. Sorry, for the wait. I was on a holiday trip in Spain and didn't have much time, nor the energy to write.

Chapter 2: Nutmeg meets the Clan

A/N: I don't own Warriors. Erin Hunter does. I just play with the characters.

" Speech"
Thoughts
' Flashback'

Nutmeg padded into the meadow after sneaking out when her household opened the door while leaving somewhere.

She noticed that the same she-cat from the day before was waiting for her.

" Hi." The golden tabby mewed.

Nutmeg lifted her tail in greeting.

As the two she-cats exchanged their greetings, two other cats approached them, a pale blue grey she-cat with blue eyes and a scar on her shoulder and a golden tabby tom with a mane-like fur on his neck.

Goldenflower dipped her head to the blue grey she-cat as if she'd be respecting her.

" These are Bluestar, the leader of ThunderClan, and Lionheart, one of the most respected warriors. He's also my brother. " Goldenflower explained to Nutmeg, who was staring at the two.

" I know that you have been wandering into our part of the forest. Why would a kittypet like you do that when you have a perfectly good home in Twolegplace and you are getting pampered by Twolegs all day?" The leader asked her.

Nutmeg told them what she had told to Goldenflower the day

before, about Jake and the fact she was afraid that she'd lose her kits after they'd hit a certain age adding the possibility that she wouldn't be able to have more kits after the visit to the vet.

" Vet? What is that?" Bluestar asked, not knowing the word.

" Vet is a housefolk that heals cats and other animals. Most she-cats that go to the vet after their kits are taken from them aren't able to have any more kits. Their personalities change, too. They will be lazy and won't do much but lay around in the sunlight." The brown and white tabby explained, sounding nervous and slightly scared at the thought of the same happening to her.

Bluestar nodded, there was a flash of something like regret or sadness in her eyes when Nutmeg mentioned the fact that most kits would be taken from their mothers.

Did she lose a kit, too?, Nutmeg thought while looking at the blue-grey leader.

Bluestar shook her head as if she'd try to dislodge the thought of something.

" That doesn't sound like a good nor appealing way of life. " The leader muttered, her blue eyes icy.

Nutmeg nodded. " It doesn't. And believe me, I have seen it happen more than I want to admit. "

Bluestar's fur nearly bristled at the thought of living like that but she forced it to lie flat. *One of her kits could be the fire Spottedleaf had a vision about.*

' Bluestar padded into the medicine cat den, noticing Spottedleaf sorting herbs. " How is the patient?" She asked from the dappled tortoiseshell, referring to the kit laying in one of the nests. *Get well soon, little one.*

The kit in question was one of Bluestar's kits, a sandy grey tom with white paws, a few bluish grey speckles on his back and green eyes, named Aspenkit. He had a bout of whitecough. The same disease had claimed the life of his father, Thrushpelt about a moon earlier.

At least Juniperkit and Duskkit are safe.

Bluestar was shaken from her thoughts by the mew of Spottedleaf.

" He has gotten worse. I'm not sure if he can survive much longer. " The medicine cat told her.

" No!" Bluestar yowled, grief filling her voice. *Oh, why StarClan? Why would you take him, too?!*

Suddenly Spottedleaf got as still as a rock, unmoving, her amber gaze distant.

After a moment, that felt like forever the medicine cat blinked.

" I had a vision of a ginger tabby tom with flame-colored fur and leaf green eyes. Beside him, I saw a brown and white tabby she-cat with amber eyes. They were surrounded by a ring of fire. In the vision, I heard the voice telling me that " Fire alone will save our Clan. " The she-cat in the vision didn't look like any of our current queens, nor any of the warriors match the description of the tom. " Spottedleaf told her.

" A brown and white tabby she-cat with amber eyes, you say? Some of the warriors told me that they had seen a she-cat matching that description sniffing around the border multiple times. She seems to be curious about the Clans. I should tell a few of the warriors to keep an eye on her. " Bluefur thought out loud.

Spottedleaf nodded. " You should. I have a feeling that she and her son will be important. Not only for ThunderClan but all Clans. " '

Goldenflower nodded in agreement to her leader. " As a Clan cat, you wouldn't have to worry about losing your kits to Twolegs. "

Nutmeg nodded. " I know that. That's one of the reasons why I want to join your Clan. "

" I have to warn you that not everyone will be happy about it because most of the warriors think that kittypets are lazy and don't know how to fight or hunt. " Lionheart warned Nutmeg.

" I will show that they are wrong. " Nutmeg hissed slightly.

The group started to head towards the camp, Nutmeg trying to keep up because her belly was slowing her down slightly.

" Do you know when your kits are due?" Goldenflower asked, while padding beside her.

" Probably in a moon and half. " Nutmeg replied.

Goldenflower nodded, purring. " I see. "

As Bluestar padded in front of the patrol she was lost in her thoughts. *I hope that Spottedleaf was right about her interpretation of the vision.*

After some time Nutmeg had the scent of multiple cats waft into her nose.
" Is that the smell of ThunderClan?" She asked from Goldenflower who nodded.

" Yes, it is. I know that it might feel impossible to tell the scents apart from each other but don't worry. You will soon learn it. " Goldenflower nodded, purring.

Nutmeg nodded, purring. " I see. "

As the group got closer to the place where the mixture of scents was coming from Nutmeg thought that she was also able to detect a faint sound of pained yowling that got louder as they approached.

" Is there an attack of some kind?" She asked, sounding scared.

" No,that's not a sound of an attack. That sounds like kitting queen. It's probably Cloudfur , since her kits are due any day now. " Bluestar reassured her. The leader sounded excited and nervous at the same time.

" Cloudfur's mother was Bluestar's sister who died when Cloudfur and her brother, Whitestorm were only kits so Bluestar acted as a mother to them. " Goldenflower explained.

" Oh. I see why she'd be nervous in a situation like this " Nutmeg replied sympathetically.

The patrol squeezed through the gorse tunnel, into the camp. In the middle of the camp, Nutmeg saw a rather nervous-looking brown tabby tom whose green eyes were fixed on one of the dens.

" That's Finchwing. He's the mate of Cloudfur. " Goldenflower explained, pointing to the brown tabby.

Nutmeg nodded, not knowing what response would be the best.

As they padded further to the clearing cats started to emerge from the dens, all staring and whispering. Some would glance at Nutmeg, lips curling and muttering about " kittypets and their stench " and " how a soft kitty like her wouldn't survive the life in the Clans. "

Bluestar leaped on top of a rock, addressing the Clan.

" As some of you may know, our warriors had picked up a scent of a kittypet near the border and not just once, but multiple times. It was always the same cat. So, I decided to ask a few of my most trusted warriors to investigate the situation. What they told me was alarming.

The she-cat in question was expecting kits and didn't want Twolegs to get their paws on them. They told me that she'd be interested in joining our Clan and I decided to see was that true , since a kittypet or a loner joining one of the clans is a rare occasion and something not to be taken lightly."

The leader told while looking at the gathered cats who were now staring at Nutmeg, some with curious expressions, others with indifference, and a few with near outright hostility.

Suddenly one of the cats, a pale brown tabby tom with black stripes lunged forward, trying to attack Nutmeg, snarling something about" kittypets ruining their Clan" .

" Longpaw! No!" One of the younger cats, a blue grey she-cat with sandy grey speckles, and green eyes yowled, blocking the tom. The tom lashed at her hissing something along the lines of: " That

kittypet will dirty our Clan with her non Clan blood!" He managed to claw the blue grey she-cat slightly on her cheek

The she-cat hissed back: " You keep your muzzle shut! You don't know anything about her or her reasons to join ThunderClan " While trying to swipe at his flank.

" Longpaw! Duskpaw! STOP IT!" Bluestar raised her voice to a yowl so the young cats could hear. They were finally separated by a ginger tabby she-cat with blue eyes and a white tom with yellow eyes.

" Longpaw. Why would you try to attack a cat you don't know? And when Duskpaw tried to intervene you dare to attack her too" Bluestar asked from the tom, her expression furious.

The tom hissed, his long tail lashing around as he glared at Nutmeg and the blue grey she-cat who was now sitting by the white tom.

"That kittypet doesn't belong in our Clan. Send her back to Twolegs." Longpaw hissed adding , more quietly : " Of course she wouldn't punish her own daughter. "

After the situation was handled , Longpaw getting a punishment of cleaning up the elder's den for a moon due to attack on Duskpaw, Bluestar continued the meeting.

" I have a question for you, Nutmeg. " Bluestar told the brown and white queen who looked at her nervously.

" I know that you don't have nearly any training in fighting or hunting but you have the tenacity of a warrior. Do you really want to join our Clan?" The leader continued calmly now.

Nutmeg nodded. " I do. "

" The spirits of StarClan, you know every cat by name. I ask you now to take away the name from the cat you see before you for it no longer stands for what she is. By my authority as Clan leader and with the approval of my ancestors I give this cat a new name. From this moment on, she will be known as Lilystep. For she's now stepping into the new world. " Bluestar mewed, her voice regal.

Nutmeg shivered as she felt something touch her when Bluestar asked the " spirits to take away her name" but it was soon replaced by warmth when the leader announced her new name, Lilystep.

The Clan yowled the new name, most quietly but a few, including Goldenflower the other cats who had been in the patrol, and a mottled sandy grey tom with a white chest and blue eyes.

" Lilystep, eh? A good name for a good queen. " The mottled sandy grey tom purred at Goldenflower who nodded.

" Congratulations, Lilystep. You are a warrior of ThunderClan now. " The blue grey she-cat with grey speckles purred, nudging the older she-cat playfully with her nose, her green eyes sparkling with humor.

" She's a queen, Duskpaw, or didn't you listen to what mother told us during the meeting?" The mottled sandy grey tom asked, looking at her.

Duskpaw looked rather sheepish. " Of course, I did,Sandypelt. " She muttered.

After all of the well-wishers had let Lilystep go she looked around, with a lost expression.

" Are you looking for something?" She heard a voice ask. Turning around she saw the light brown tabby tom from before.

" Yes, which of the dens is the one for mothers and kits?" She asked.

" Oh, you mean the nursery. I can show you. " He purred, sounding excited.

As Lilystep squeezed through the gap at the front of the den she heard the voice ask,purring: " Back again, Finchwing?"

When she looked in the direction of the voice she saw a beautiful dark grey and white she-cat with blue eyes, curled around two tiny kits.

That must be the she-cat Goldenflower and Bluestar told me about.

What was her name, Cloudpelt?

Lilystep thanked the tom and curled up into the only vacant nest before closing her eyes and falling asleep, feeling exhausted.

A/N: What do you think? What is your opinion on Nutmeg's new name? Originally I was about to name her something along the lines of Nutmegstep but it didn't feel nor sound right so I decided on Lilystep. Lily for her white chest and paws, step for what Bluestar said.

Chapter 3: Is this what Clan life is like?

A/N: I don't own Warriors. Erin Hunter does. I just play with the characters.

" Speech"
Thoughts, dreams
' Flashback'

The next day newly named Lilystep padded out of the nursery den, stretching her back and legs. She noticed how a red tortoiseshell tom with a distinctively bushy tail was talking to a small group of cats, consisting of a dark brown tabby tom with long front claws and amber eyes, a young dark grey tabby tom, a ginger tabby she-cat with blue eyes, a young reddish-brown tom with a lighter underbelly, chest, and paws and a black tom with spiky fur.

" Looks like Redtail is in the middle of giving orders to border or hunting patrol. " She heard the voice of one of the other she-cats who shared the den with her, a pale grey she-cat with rather unusually blue eyes.

" Willowpelt. How are you today? " The duo heard the voice of a tom calling out. Lilystep's companion turned to look in the direction of the voice, seeing the mottled sandy grey tom with a white chest and, blue eyes, his being of darker shade than that of his mate.

" I'm fine, Sandypelt. Even though the kits kicked quite a bit during the night. " The grey she-cat told him, purring.

The tom purred. " They are probably restless. After all, it won't be long before they will arrive. I'm sure that mother can't wait to meet her first grandkits."

" I'm sure she can't. I can't wait to meet them either. " Willowpelt purred, sounding excited and nervous at the same time at the

thought.

Lilystep listened to the buzz of the Clan around her, feeling slightly overwhelmed. *There are so many cats. How do I ever get to know who is who?*

After a few moments, she noticed Goldenflower padding out of one of the dens. The golden tabby headed towards Lilystep, purring.

" Good morning.How are you, Lilystep? Did you sleep well?" Goldenflower asked, looking at her while still purring.

The brown and white tabby nodded, purring now, too. " I slept well. The nest was surprisingly comfortable. " She told the bigger she-cat who nodded.

" It's because of the amount of moss in the nest. And the nursery is built in a way that minimizes the draft for the well-being of both the mothers and their kits. Have you spoken to your denmates yet?" Goldenflower asked, looking at her.

Lilystep shook her head. " No, I haven't yet. I don't even know their names, except for Willowfur and Cloudpelt" She told Goldenflower, hesitating slightly before the names.

" Willowpelt and Cloudfur. Cloudfur was the queen who gave birth a bit before we came back to the camp. Apparently, she had three kits, but one of them, a diluted tortoiseshell and white shekit was stillborn which means that she was born dead. " Goldenflower told her, her voice shaking slightly at the thought.

That explains why she was curled up around the two kits so tightly. Lilystep nodded, looking solemn. " That's horrible. To lose a kit before it has a chance to live. "

Goldenflower nodded, her amber eyes dark. " It is. Thank StarClan, two of the kits survived. "

" StarClan? What or who is that? Another Clan in the forest? Jake never mentioned it while telling stories about the Clans. " Lilystep asked, sounding curious.

" StarClan is a group of Clan cats that have died and now watch over their living relatives from the stars. They will send prophecies and omens to the leaders and medicine cats and will give the leaders their nine lives. " Goldenflower explained.

" That sounds impressive. I wonder if will I ever see them. " Lilystep thought out loud.

" You possibly will, since each apprentice will go to the journey to the Mothermouth, a cave where there is a massive glowing stone called the Moonstone. By touching it we can communicate with our ancestors in our dreams. " Goldenflower nodded, purring.

" Really? Have you met any of those cats in your dreams?" Lilystep asked, looking at her.

Goldenflower nodded. " Yes, I have, but I can't tell you about it. Dreams brought by Moonstone are sacred and not to be discussed lightly. "

" Oh, I understand. " Lilystep nodded, getting even more curious about the mysterious stone and the Clan of dead cats associated with it.

Later that day when Lilystep was sunning herself she noticed the white she-cat with dark blue eyes approaching her. *What does she want from me?*

The white she-cat looked at the brown and white tabby with a slightly curious expression.

" Lilystep, right? " The white she-cat asked.

Lilystep nodded. " Yes, I am Lilystep. What do you want? " She asked.

" Were you really a kittypet? The reason I'm asking is that one of our former leaders left the Clan to become one. " The white she-cat asked, sounding curious about it.

" Yes, I lived with housefolk, if that's what you mean. " Lilystep replied, nodding.

The white she-cat looked at her. " What was it like? "

" It was good but could easily be a bit dull. Also, the fact that if a she-cat had kits they'd be taken from the mother almost instantly they were weaned and didn't need her milk anymore was scary. That's one of the reasons why I asked to join your Clan. I couldn't bear the thought of not seeing my kits ever again after they'd been taken from me. " Lilystep replied, her mew shaking slightly at the end.

The white she-cat's eyes were wide at the thought of that happening to every she-cat who lived with Twolegs.

" That's cruel. Don't they think about how the kits will feel after being separated from their mother and siblings?" She asked, dark blue eyes filled with worry.

Lilystep shrugged. " Apparently they don't think about it. Or that's what it seems to me. "

After a few heartbeats, they were approached by another she-cat, this one a grey tabby. She was also one of Lilystep's denmates.

" Good morning, Brindleface. How did you sleep? You look like you didn't sleep at all. " The white she-cat purred, looking at the grey tabby.

The grey tabby ,whose name was apparently Brindleface looked at the white she-cat with a slightly drowsy expression.
" You are correct, sister. I didn't sleep much because the kits were kicking and turning the whole night. " She replied.

It looks like her kits will be here soon. It's no wonder why she wouldn't get sleep, Lilystep thought, glancing at the grey tabby.

Later that day when Lilystep was eating a mouse she noticed Lionheart talking with the white she-cat from before. *Looks like she likes him and the other way around.*

She noticed Goldenflower padding by her, followed by two younger cats, the blue-grey she-cat with sandy grey speckles and green eyes and a dark grey tom with white paws and blue eyes. The young cats

seemed excited about something.

" I can't wait to kick Longpaw's tail again during a sparring session. " The tom mewed, his tail flicking excitedly.

" By making him trip on it?" The she-cat asked, letting out a mrow of laughter.

The tom flicked his ear. " Maybe, maybe not. "

" Calm down, Juniperpaw. Longpaw is older than you so he knows more moves. " Goldenflower purred at the excitement of the apprentices.

" Only by 2 moons. And him being older doesn't mean that he's better fighter." The tom, Juniperpaw muttered under his breath.

Lilystep felt slightly overwhelmed again by the number of cats milling around her. *I'll never be able to tell who is who.*

A/N: What do you think? Should one of the toms in ThunderClan start getting close to Lilystep or not?

Chapter 4: Learning more (And new kits)

A/N: I don't own Warriors. Erin Hunter does. I just play with the characters.

" Speech"
Thoughts
' Flashback'

Lilystep padded out of the nursery, blinking in the sunlight. She started to slowly wash but stopped when she felt eyes on her. As she turned to look in the direction where she thought the cat was she noticed the dark brown tabby tom with long claws staring at her, his amber gaze blazing with near outright hostility. *What's his problem? I haven't done anything to him.*

" Why are you staring at the kittypet, Tigerclaw? Aren't you supposed to get ready for my training session?" Lilystep heard the voice of the young black tabby tom with yellow eyes asking him.

" We have to wait for Finchwing and Longpaw. Then we can go to Sandy hollow for training. Today we will go over a few more difficult moves since the younger apprentices won't be with us. They are all on either hunting or border patrols, or gathering moss . " Tigerclaw drawled,with a small sneer on his face at the end of the explanation as if he'd think that moss gathering or patrols were beneath him .

After a few heartbeats the brown
tabby tom with green eyes padded over to Tigerclaw and the dark grey tabby tom with the pale brown tabby tom with blue eyes and long tail trailing behind him.

" Finchwing,Longpaw. Are you ready? " Tigerclaw asked.

Finchwing, whom Lilystep recognized as the mate of Cloudfur,

nodded. " Yes, we are. "

The massive dark brown tom nodded. " Good. "

After that, the quartet left the camp.

Lilystep thought for a moment about what she should do before padding over to the pile of prey, choosing a small mouse.

As she ate Lilystep thought that she heard yowling nearby that got closer and closer. *What's going on? Did some cat get attacked by a fox or something?*

After a few heartbeats, a patrol of cats ran into the camp, pelts fluffed and claws out. The air around them stank of fear. *What happened? Did one of the cats get hurt or... even killed?!*

Bluestar padded out of her den to see what was going on.

" Frostfur, what is all of this yowling about? " The leader asked from a white she-cat with dark blue eyes, who was one of the cats in the patrol.

" We saw a badger near the Thunderpath. It probably came from ShadowClan's territory, we didn't see any ShadowClan patrols though. But we drove it away , to no Clan's territory. " Frostfur explained

Bluestar listened, nodding. " I see. If any of you are hurt, go to the medicine cat den. "

After that, a few cats in the patrol padded into the den that smelled strongly like herbs. *Is that the medicine cat den? I have never been there, because the medicine cat , Spottedpelt or something similar I think her name was, has always come to the nursery to check on us.*

Lilystep's thoughts were interrupted by the sound of paw steps. When she turned to look at the cat in question she saw that Bluestar had jumped off the rock she had been standing atop of, watching the Clan.

" Lilystep. How are you today?" The leader asked kindly, sitting

beside the brown and white queen, wrapping her tail around her paws neatly.

" I'm fine, even though the number of cats here seems a bit overwhelming at times. How long it takes for me to learn every cat's name? And why do some cats have the word -paw at the end of their names while others don't? I know that you have -star at the end of yours because you're a leader." She asked, sounding curious about the naming system.

Bluestar nodded. " It is because of the way names work in Clans. When a kit is born its parents will give it a name , ending with a suffix -kit, like Cloudfur named her only surviving son Owlkit and she also named the kits that sadly didn't survive. The stillborn shekit is named Flowerkit and the other tom was called Dapplekit.

When a kit turns six moons old they are ready to be apprenticed and get their apprentice names, all of which have a suffix -paw. So Owlkit will become Owlpaw and so on. Each apprentice will be mentored by a warrior or in rarer cases the medicine cat, assigned to them by the leader. A mentor is a cat who teaches the apprentice on how to hunt and fight for their Clan.

When the apprentice is thought to be skilled enough by their mentor, they will have a warrior assignment which can be hunting a certain amount of prey or a sparring match against the mentor.

After that, they will have a warrior ceremony where the leader will give them their warrior name, which will be have distinct suffix, usually based on the cat's personality.For example, a kind hearted cat would get a suffix like shine, cloud or something similar . After the new warrior has gained their name they will have a silent vigil for the night , to think about what it means to be a warrior and what their new duties now are.

If a warrior is skilled or trusted enough by the leader they may even become the deputy , which means they are second in command in their Clan . Their name doesn't change , though." Bluestar explained patiently.

" Who is the ... deputy of ThunderClan now?" Lilystep asked,

hesitating slightly at the new word.

Bluestar purred, pointing at the small red tortoiseshell tom with a distinctive fluffy tail Lilystep had seen a few days prior giving orders to some of the cats. He was currently sharing a sparrow with one of the queens, the grey tabby who Lilystep remembered was called Brindleface. The queen looked like she was ready to burst.

" That would be Redtail. He is the deputy and a good one at that. If you have any questions, don't be afraid to ask him. He will gladly help you. " Bluestar told the brown and white she-cat, purring.

Lilystep nodded. " I see. Why is he sharing a bird with Brindleface? Is it because he is her friend or family member? "

Bluestar shook her head, purring. " No, it is because they are mates. He's the father of her kits. But you are correct with that, usually, cats share prey with their friends or littermates."

Lilystep nodded again. " Oh, I see. "

About a half moon later Lilystep was sharing a mouse with two of her denmates whom she had now befriended, a dusky brown she-cat with ginger patch on her chest called Robinwing and Brindleface who had given birth to Redtail's kits ,a pale tortoiseshell shekit with a fluffy tail like her father's called Amberkit and a pale ginger shekit with barely visible darker stripes called Sandkit , a few days prior.

" Is something wrong?" Lilystep asked, sounding worried.

" I think that my kits are coming , now," Robinwing told her, hissing slightly.

One of the apprentices, Duskpaw , poked her head into the den after hearing what Robinwing had hissed.

" I'll go get Spottedleaf, and Fuzzypelt,don't worry Robinwing. " She mewed before turning around and racing to the medicine cat den.

After a few heartbeats, the medicine cat padded into the den carrying a pile of different herbs in her jaws.

" Here, Robinwing. This is burnet. It's for strength. Eat it. " The tortoiseshell medicine cat told the queen who swallowed the herbs, hissing again when a contraction hit.

Lilystep padded out of the nursery to give the medicine cat some space to work. She noticed that the black tom with fur stuck out in every direction was pacing nervously in front of the nursery den.

" Calm down , Fuzzypelt. This isn't the first litter you and Robinwing have had. She will be fine. " One of the cats told the black tom, purring.

" I know that, Whitestorm. " Fuzzypelt told the white tom who had spoken.

After what felt like moons , Spottedleaf padded out of the nursery den.

" Congratulations , Fuzzypelt. Robinwing and you have two sons and a daughter. She'd like you to help to name them. " The medicine cat told the black tom who purred at the announcement.

Lilystep padded back into the nursery a little bit after Fuzzypelt had left back to the warrior's den. She saw Robinwing curled around three little bundles of fur, two of them were black and one a brown tabby.

" What names did you choose?" She asked, gazing at the kits warmly.

" The brown tabby tom is Dustkit while the black tom is Ravenkit and the shekit is Magpiekit. " Robinwing told her, purring as she touched each of the kits with her nose when naming them.

" Those sound like lovely names. " Lilystep told her, purring. *What will my kits look like? Will any of them look like Jake? I hope so.*

A/N: What do you think? Will Magpiekit be a good friend to Firekit and his siblings like Ravenkit will? Or will she take after Dustkit? What about Amberkit?

Chapter 5: Even more kits

A/N: I don't own Warriors. Erin Hunter does. I just play with the characters.

" Speech"

Thoughts , dreams

' Flashback'

Lilystep purred as she watched Robinwing's and Brindleface's kits explore the camp with wide eyes and slightly unsure paws, led by Owlkit who seemed to be happy that he finally had denmates to play with. *It won't take long until my kits will join them along with Willowpelt's kits. It will only be about half a moon to a quarter moon before mine are born. I can't wait to see what they will look like.*

The brown and white tabby's thoughts were interrupted by a now familiar mew of Brindleface who padded over to her, purring as she watched the kits playing around the camp. " Owlkit seems to have quite a bit of energy in him, doesn't he?" The grey tabby queen purred.

Lilystep nodded, purring. " He has, especially after your and Robinwing's kits opened their eyes. "

' Lilystep was woken up by a sudden squeal coming from Cloudfur's nest. The reason for the noise was the grey and white queen's kit, a grey and white tom with green eyes, like his father, Finchwing.

" Did you get hurt by something, Owlkit?" Cloudfur asked her son who shook his head. " No, I didn't, mama. Look at Brindle's kits! They have their eyes open! Does it mean that I can play with them now?!" He squealed excitedly.

Brindleface nodded, purring as she looked at her two kits who now had their eyes open. Amberkit's eyes were a dark amber color, like

Redtail's while Sandkit's were leaf green, like the grey tabby queen's. They were watching the older tomkit with wide, curious eyes.

A few days later Robinwing's kits opened their eyes, too. Dustkit's and Magpiekit's eyes were yellow like Fuzzypelt's while Ravenkit had green eyes. '

Brindleface nodded, purring. " I know that. He has been badgering me to let Amberkit and Sandkit play with him and the other kits each dawn after he wakes up. "

Lilystep purred. " He just wants to show Cloudfur that he's the leader of the kits because he's the oldest. And that he knows his way around the camp already or so he thinks."

" Like yesterday when he accidentally nearly padded into Bluestar's den before Redtail caught him, Dustkit, Magpiekit, and Sandkit and told them that ' the scent of one kit in the leader's den means curiosity while the scent of two or more means trouble." Brindleface purred, gazing at her two daughters fondly.

Lilystep purred. " Exactly. "

The next day when Lilystep was washing carefully she heard the sound of pawsteps approaching her. " How are you, Lilystep? Have your kits kept you up at night? You look like you're ready to burst. " She heard the mew of Maplegaze, the newest of the queens who had moved into the nursery around the time of Sandkit's and Amberkit's birth, expecting Blackwing's kits.

Lilystep shook her head, looking at the tortoiseshell and white she-cat whose differently colored eyes were her most distinct feature. *I have never seen a cat with one amber eye and one blue eye. I wonder if any of her kits will have different-colored eyes, too.*

" No, they didn't keep me up. Probably because they don't have much room to move around anymore. " Lilystep purred.

Maplegaze nodded. " I see. "

Later that day when Lilystep was sunning herself in a spot near the

nursery the near silence in the camp was broken by a pained yowl. *Is that Willowpelt? Are her kits coming?*

The brown and white tabby got to her paws slowly before padding to the medicine cat den but she noticed Spottedleaf padding out of the den with a bundle of herbs already in her jaws.

" Spottedleaf, Willowpelt is kitting. " She told the medicine cat who nodded, trying to be calm but there was a slight hint of worry in her amber eyes. *This isn't the first kitting Spottedleaf has handled. Why would she look so worried? Is it because Willowpelt has lost a kit before or is it something else?*

After what felt like moons Spottedleaf padded out of the nursery, purring. She headed towards Sandypelt who had just returned from a border patrol. " Congratulations Sandypelt. You have two sons. She'd like your help in naming them. "

As the mottled tom padded into the den, purring Lilystep turned to look at Spottedleaf. " Is everything okay? Are the kits and Willowpelt alright?"

The medicine cat nodded, purring. " Everything is fine. Both of the toms are healthy, though one of them has quite a set of lungs in him. He was squealing nearly from the moment he was born. "

Lilystep purred, listening to the sounds coming from the nursery, including now a high-pitched squealing. *It definitely sounds like he will be a talkative one.*

After some time, after Sandypelt had come out of the nursery Lilystep padded into the den slowly. She saw Willowpelt curled around two tiny grey bundles, her blue eyes shining with love.

" What names did you choose for them ?" The brown and white tabby asked quietly.

" This one is Greykit, " Willowpelt told her, touching the long-haired dark grey kit with a darker stripe on his back with her nose gently, which caused the kit to squeal. " And this one is Flintkit" The silvery grey queen continued, touching the fluffy mottled, pale grey kit

with white paws next.

Lilystep purred. " They sound like good names. "

The next day Lilystep was woken up by a slight pain in her stomach. *What is going on? Did the sparrow I ate yesterday disagree with me?*

As she got slowly to her paws she saw that Willowpelt was looking at her with a slightly worried expression.

" Are you alright, Lilystep? " Willowpelt asked.

Lilystep nodded. " Yes, I am. I probably just ate something funny. " *Even though the sparrow didn't taste or smell weird.*

The pain continued to bother her, increasing in waves. *This isn't normal stomach pain... Are my kits coming?! But I thought they would be coming later, not now!*

Lilystep's panicked thoughts were broken by a mew from outside of the den. " Have you eaten yet?" The voice was one of the older apprentices, a white and ginger she-cat with amber eyes named Cherrypaw.

Robinwing shook her head. " No, we haven't yet. "

As Cherrypaw padded into the den she noticed the pained expression on Lilystep's face. " Are you alright, Lilystep? Do I need to fetch Spottedleaf?" The apprentice asked, the tip of her tail twitching slightly.

Lilystep shook her head, trying to ignore the pain wracking through her body. " Not yet. "

Cherrypaw nodded before placing a bird of some kind down on the ground near the nests.

" That thrush looks so good. Did you catch it? You are shaping up into quite a hunter. " Robinwing asked, her amber eyes shining with pride.

" Yes, I did catch it. It nearly flew away but Icestorm managed to keep it from taking off. " Cherrypaw purred.

After eating only a few bites of the bird Lilystep hissed when the biggest wave of pain rocked her body.

" Could you please ... go get Spottedleaf? I... think that... my kits are.... coming!" She asked from Cherrypaw who dashed quickly to the medicine cat den.

After what felt like moons but must have been only a few heartbeats Spottedleaf padded into the den with the bundle of herbs in her jaws.

" This is burnett and borage. Burnett is for strength while borage helps you produce more milk for your kits. " The medicine cat told her before placing the herb bundle down and nudging it towards the birthing queen who carefully ate them.

After what like forever Lilystep had already given birth to three kits, a brown tabby tomkit with white paws, chest, and underbelly, a light ginger tabby tomkit with white paws, belly and chest, and a mottled brown and ginger she-kit with white tailtip. *They look perfect. The ginger tomkit looks like a paler version of Jake with my markings.*

" You are doing well, Lilystep. I think there are one or two kits. I know that it hurts but you'll be grateful for when they are all here. " Spottedleaf encouraged and soothed the brown and white queen.

How can I care for five kits?! Lilystep thought feeling a slight panic coursing through her veins.

After what felt like moons the second-to-last kit was born, a fluffy light brown tabby shekit with snow-white paws and chest and a thickly furred tail. *She's beautiful, just like her siblings.*

" Good, Lilystep, one more. Then all of your kits are here. " Spottedleaf encouraged the slightly exhausted queen.

Lilystep nodded, gritting her teeth together as the last kit was born. The kit in question was an orange tabby tomkit whose fur looked

like a glistening flame. *He looks exactly like Jake!*

After some time Bluestar poked her head into the den. " How are you, Lilystep? Spottedleaf just told me about your kits. Congratulations, five kits is quite a big litter. " The leader told her, purring as her blue eyes went over the bundle of kits on the curve of Lilystep's belly. The blue-grey she-cat's gaze seemed to stop at the last-born kit, the fiery orange tom, for a heartbeat.

" Have you chosen the names for them yet? " Bluestar asked, purring.

Lilystep nodded, having thought about the names for a while.

" The brown and white tomkit is Mudkit, the ginger and brown shekit is Doekit, the ginger, and white tomkit is Lionkit, the miniature version of me is Larchkit and the last tomkit is Firekit, because his fur looks like a flame," Lilystep told Bluestar who nodded, her expression slightly surprised or ... shocked at the name of the last kit.

Why did Bluestar look like the name Firekit shocked her ? Is it because fire is a threatening element ? But that doesn't make sense . If the Clan cats wouldn't use names that sound threatening Cloudfur wouldn't have named her son Owlkit because owls are a threat , especially to kits .

A/N: What do you think? Are the names of Firestar's siblings good or bad? If you have any suggestions on what could happen next comment below.

Chapter 6: Kitsteps and ceremonies

A/N: I don't own Warriors. Erin Hunter does. I just play with the characters.

" Speech"
Thoughts, dreams
' Flashback'

Lilystep was in the middle of washing her squirming kits when she saw Robinwing and Brindleface padding into the den, herding their kits before themselves.

" But mama! We aren't tired!" Sandkit protested to Brindleface, which caused Dustkit to nod along and try to get Robinwing to let them play for a few moments longer.

" No, you can't play right now, because it's time for a nap. You can play afterward. " Robinwing told her son, licking his cheek gently.

" But mama! We want to play!" Dustkit mewed, his fur fluffing up as he protested, swatting at Sandkit playfully who leaped at him in response, and the two kits rolled around the den, swatting at each other and squealing with renewed energy.

Lilystep purred watching the duo. " Getting the kits to sleep isn't as easy as it seems at first. Especially after they have opened their eyes and started to explore the camp. "

Robinwing nodded, purring. " It definitely is. "

" And the older they get the more energy they have. " Brindleface purred.

Lilystep nodded, purring. " That seems to be true. "

Brindleface purred, watching her daughter swatting at the dark

brown tabby tomkit. " Sandkit, be gentle with him. If you want, you can go play with Owlkit or Amberkit. "

" But they only want to play leader and deputy during a fight against RiverClan and make me be the medicine cat and I want to be a warrior , not play with some smelly herbs!" Sandkit yowled as a protest.

Later that day after Spottedleaf had come to check on the kits , making sure that all of them were healthy and eating well Lilystep padded outside of the nursery den, enjoying the warmth of sunlight on her fur. *This is better way to live than as a kittypet. I still can't believe that Bluestar was so kind as to take a cat without any battle or hunting training in her Clan as she did with me.*

After some time of sunning, she heard the sound of approaching paw steps. When she turned to look who the cat in question was she was met with the dark blue gaze of Frostfur. The white she-cat was one of the warriors who had taken some time to warm up to the former kittypet but Lilystep being friends with her sister had helped a lot.

" Have you heard what Tigerclaw told Lionheart?" Frostfur asked, purring. The white warrior had feelings toward Goldenflower's brother but acted like she didn't know if he liked her back. *It wouldn't surprise me if they will become mates sooner rather than later.*

Lilystep shook her head. " No, I haven't. What was it?"

Frostfur purred, eyes shining with excitement. " Tigerclaw told him that Longpaw and Darkpaw had passed their warrior assessments and will be getting their warrior names today. ThunderClan needs good warriors as they will be, I'm sure of it. "

" How does the warrior naming ceremony go? Is it similar to the one Bluestar had for me when I joined ?" Lilystep asked curiously.

"First Bluestar will call a Clan meeting. Then she will call the apprentices forward, and by using sacred words of a warrior ceremony she will give the -paws their warrior names, each name is unique, because even if two warriors in the same Clan would share

a suffix, their prefixes will be different. " Frostfur explained.

Lilystep nodded, listening closely. " I see. "

Later, Lilystep was watching her kits stumble around the clearing near the nursery with still slightly unsure paws. *They have grown so much in only a moon and half.*

Suddenly she felt like one of the cats in the camp was watching her or the kits. When she turned to look in that direction she saw who it was: Bluestar. The leader was gazing at the kits with a warm look in her blue eyes yet there was a hint of... sadness? grief? longing? mixed in, too.

Lilystep padded slowly closer to the leader, dipping her head respectfully. " How, are you today, Bluestar?"

Bluestar blinked slowly, purring as she kept her eyes on the kits.

" Oh, I was just thinking about something. " The leader told her, purring.

" What is it? Why did it make you seem so sad for a moment? " Lilystep asked, worry coloring her mew.

" It's a personal matter. " Bluestar told her, her blue eyes flashing like cold fire with her tone telling the brown and white queen that she wouldn't converse about whatever it was.

" I see. I'm so sorry for asking. I didn't mean to offend you. " Lilystep told the leader before quickly gathering her kits and leading them back to the nursery.

Later that day Lilystep's kits were woken up from their nap by a yowl from Bluestar as she called a Clan meeting.

" What's going on, mama? Did ShadowClan attack the camp like in the stories that One-eye and Halftail tell us?" Firekit squeaked with his flame-colored fur fluffing up at the thought of an enemy Clan attacking.

Lilystep purred at her son's question, shaking her head. " No, little

one. That was Bluestar calling a Clan meeting for something important. "

Firekit squealed with excitement before trying to rush toward the entrance of the den which caused the rest of the kits to squeal and try to race with him, tumbling over each other tails or paws with a squeal.

" Calm down, little ones. All of you can watch the meeting from the clearing as long as you will behave yourself. Remember, that means no trying to get closer to the warriors to bother them, no pushing each other out of the way, and keeping quiet when Bluestar speaks. " Brindleface told the kits who all nodded, nearly bouncing up and down with excitement.

After the queens managed to get all of the kits out of the nursery to the clearing or at the entrance of the nursery in the case of Ravenkit, who was flanked by Firekit and Greykit.

Bluestar looked at the gathered Clan, noticing the trio of kits at the entrance of the nursery den. *Hopefully, the friendship between Greykit and Firekit will help Ravenkit to become braver and stronger, so he can grow up into a fine warrior like his parents.*

" As most of you have heard, ThunderClan will have two new warriors today. Longpaw and Darkpaw have passed their warrior assessments and are ready to become full members of our Clan. " The leader told the Clan, glancing at the two older apprentices, who were sitting near the front of the crowd with their mentors.

" Darkpaw, Longpaw, step forward" Bluestar addressed the duo who padded forward, their heads and tails held high with their eyes shining with pride and excitement.

" I, Bluestar, leader of ThunderClan call upon my warrior ancestors to look down on these apprentices. They have trained hard to understand the ways of your noble code, and I commend them to you as warriors in their turns. " The leader started the ceremony, turning to look at Darkpaw, who looked back at her with an eager and hopeful expression.

" Darkpaw, do you promise to uphold the warrior code and to protect and defend your Clan, even at the cost of your life? " She asked him the question that was asked of all new warriors.

" I do" Darkpaw replied, his voice shaking slightly with excitement.

" Then by the powers of StarClan, I give you your warrior name. From this moment on you will be known as Darkstripe. StarClan honors your energy and fighting skills and we welcome you as a full member of ThunderClan. " After that Bluestar rested her muzzle on top of his head and the newly named warrior licked her shoulder.

After that Darkstripe padded slightly to the side and Bluestar repeated the ceremony with Longpaw, giving him a warrior name Longtail, which caused a few of the watching cats to purr in amusement.

" Darkstripe! Longtail! Darkstripe! Longtail! " ThunderClan called out the names of their newest warriors.

" You two will spend a silent vigil tonight, starting at sundown. " The leader told the duo who nodded.

" What do you think your warrior names will be? I'd like mine to be something like Firefang, Fireleap,Fireblaze or Firestripe" Lilystep heard Firekit ask Ravenkit and Greykit.

" I'd want mine to be Ravenshade, Ravenwing, Ravenbee or Ravenwhisker " The black tomkit told him, his fur fluffing up at the thought of getting a new name.

" I'd want mine to be Greyfang, Greyhawk, Greyblaze, or Greypelt" Greykit mewed, looking at his mother who purred proudly.

Lilystep purred. " I'm sure that your warrior names will be wonderful, little ones. Now, it's time for a nap time for great future warriors, isn't it?"
I can't wait to see who their mentors will be. I hope whomever they will get will train them to be loyal Clan cats.

A/N: What do you think? I know that some of the names the kits thought up may sound a bit odd but that's the point.

Chapter 7: Kit Games and Surprises

A/N: I don't own Warriors. Erin Hunter does. I just play with the characters.

" Speech"

Thoughts , dreams

' Flashback'

Lilystep padded out of the nursery, purring as she watched Firekit, Greykit, and Ravenkit play with a moss ball. The trio of kits had gotten close during their first four moons. *And the friendship of the two bolder toms has brought Ravenkit out of his shell.*

Ravenkit threw the moss ball to Firekit who had to chase it for a few steps, his flame-colored fur fluffed up with excitement. However, before he caught the moss ball there was a yowl and a dark grey fluffball hit him, causing the two kits to tumble over and over again, tails and legs tangled up.

" Greykit! Get off me, you big lump! You're squishing me! " Firekit yowled faintly from under the bigger, fluffier kit who suddenly scrambled up as if he had been stung by a bee.

Lilystep watched the interaction, purring with amusement. " You should be more careful about your surroundings, Greykit. If you always rush forward like that you could hurt someone else or yourself badly. " She told the kit.

" I'm sorry, Lilystep. I'll be more careful later on, I promise! " Greykit squeaked nervously, his fur now fluffed up even more than usual.

Lilystep nodded, purring. " Good. Now, remember to be more

careful later, okay? " She told Greykit gently, who nodded before dashing off to play again.

About a quarter moon later, Lilystep was talking to Maplegaze who had had her kits a moon and a half earlier. The trio were the youngest of the kits in the nursery and were looking up to the older kits and some of the younger apprentices, especially Owlpaw, who had gotten his name a few days earlier.

The young tom had been apparently apprenticed about half a moon earlier than was normal because of the fact that ThunderClan had only four apprentices left: Cherrypaw, Chestnutpaw, Duskpaw, and Juniperpaw and the two older ones had only their warrior assessments left along with half or a quarter moon of training before they'd leave the apprentice's den and joined the warriors in their den.

Suddenly one of Maplegaze's kits , a black and white tom with blue eyes, called Rainkit ran over to the two queens, followed by Firekit, Doekit, Mudkit, Lionkit, Larchkit , Greykit , Flintkit, and Magpiekit.

" Mama! Sandkit, Dustkit, and Amberkit are being mean to us!" Larchkit yowled while shaking, her green eyes wide with terror because of the older kits.

" What do you mean by that, little one?" Lilystep asked, looking at her miniature version.

" We were playing ThunderClan versus RiverClan and Firekit was the leader but Sandkit told us that ' he shouldn't be the leader because he has no forest blood in his veins, only stinky, lazy kittypet blood. Someone like Dustkit should play the leader because he knows how the Clans are, unlike you , stinky little kittypet!' After that, she scratched him!" Larchkit explained, her already fluffy fur standing in every direction.

As Lilystep looked at her kits, she noticed that Firekit indeed had a scratch on his cheek with a drop of blood welling to the surface.

The brown and white tabby picked her son up by the scruff before padding over to the medicine cat den, despite his protests of "

Mama! I know how to walk and I want to keep playing with the others!"

" Spottedleaf? Are you in here?" She called out to the medicine cat who emerged from the den, looking at the queen and her kit.

" What is the problem, Lilystep? Did Firekit get hurt by something? Or is it tummy ache from eating too much prey?" The tortoiseshell and white she-cat asked, looking at the fiery kit while sniffing him.

" Sandkit scratched him while they were playing. I'd like you to check that it's not bad. " Lilystep explained, trying to keep calm. *I should have a talk with Willowpelt about the way her daughters act towards my kits. At least Amberkit isn't as bad as Sandkit.*

Spottedleaf nodded, purring. " I see. "

After the medicine cat had treated Firekit's scratches Lilystep carried him back to the nursery.

A few days later, Lilystep was watching her kits and Ravenkit playing with Rainkit and his siblings, Flamekit, a mostly white tom with a few ginger patches and amber eyes, and Mallowkit, a tortoiseshell and white shekit with orange eyes, throwing a moss ball around.

Suddenly the black tomkit let out a screech of terror and the rest of the kits scramled away from him, eyes wide with fear. The reason for their reactions was something slithering near Ravenkit who was frozen with fear. A snake with a flickering tongue and a lightning-shaped stripe down its spine. *An adder! One of the most dangerous snakes around, especially to kits!*

" A snake! There is a snake in the camp!" Lilystep yowled a warning, causing some of the warriors to run over. One of them, a snow-white tom with yellow eyes called Whitestorm, grabbed Ravenkit by the scruff while Wrenleap, a blue-cream she-cat with green eyes, and Tigerclaw, the dark brown tabby with amber eyes and unusually long front claws cornered the reptile before Tigerclaw struck it twice, causing it to bleed a lot before falling to the ground, lifeless.

Tigerclaw looked at Whitestorm, nodding proudly before picking the dead snake up and throwing it into the fresh kill pile.

" Thank you, Tigerclaw! You saved our kits from a certain death!" Maplegaze mewed gratefully to the dark tom who looked at her with an unreadable expression.

" It was nothing. I'd do anything for the future of ThunderClan and the Clan needs its kits. They are the most important thing we have, being our future generations, after all. " He mewed with a knowing expression on his muzzle. *And I know that my legacy needs to continue on. After all, my father was the leader of ThunderClan. So, I need to have the perfect mate or more than one. I know that Maplegaze is the half-sister of Bluestar so she's out because of her too soft and gentle blood. But Goldenflower? She'd be the perfect mother for my future kits and I know that she doesn't have a mate in mind, at least not yet.*

Meanwhile, in the nursery, Lilystep was sniffing and licking the kits comfortingly along with Robinwing.

" You are safe, little ones. The bad, ugly snake is dead and can't hurt you anymore." She purred calmly.

" You sure, mama?" Firekit squeaked fearfully, looking at her with wide green eyes.

Lilystep nodded, licking his head lovingly. " Yes, my sweet. I know that you are safe in here as long as you are a part of the Clan. Warriors will keep you safe from any harm, I promise that. " She purred.

A/N: What do you think? In the next chapter, we will see Cherrypaw's and Chestnutpaw's warrior ceremonies along with a bunch of apprentice ceremonies.

Please comment with your ideas on what warrior names should Cherry and Chestnut have along with which of the warriors should mentor the kits, Lilystep's or not. :)